About HRBCP

The Hong Kong Hereditary and High Risk Breast Cancer Programme (HRBCP) has been established since March 2007 and is the first community-wide programme of its kind to offer both clinical service and data collection to improve the understanding of the spectrum of breast cancer in Asians, in particular the Chinese population in both Hong Kong and other parts of Asia.

Clinical Result

Since the establishment of the HRBCP, 120 patients with breast cancer based on clinical risk have been tested for BRCA mutation. 18% of these patients were found to have the mutation. This finding is very different from the known reference population (mainly Caucasian) with a higher percentage of mutations found in our population based on similar clinical selection criteria. In addition, in our population, 62% were BRCA 2 mutations and 38% were BRCA 1 mutations, which differ from the Caucasian population where majority of the BRCA mutations are BRCA1 mutations. Moreover, amongst the mutations found in Hong Kong, 5 are novel mutations, that is, they have never been reported previously.

37 family members of these patients were also found to carry the BRCA gene mutation. 11 of these family members do not have breast or ovarian cancer and are now benefiting from high risk screening programmes and also preventative measures to reduce their cancer risk.

Our overall findings suggest that Chinese/Asian population may have a different rate of BRCA mutation and also different pattern of the mutation when compared to Caucasian population. Further studies will be important for us to increase the understanding of familial cancers in our population so that we can tailor make a risk assessment and management programme appropriate for our population.
Publication

National Institute of Health
The Hong Kong Hereditary and High Risk Breast Cancer Family Registry (asiabreastregistry.com) has also been established in order to collect data for analysis. The statistics of the preliminary result without personal identifiers will be available on the website in due course so that we can collect comprehensive statistics on familial breast and related cancers in our locality.

In October 2007, in collaboration with Professor Dee West of The North California Cancer Registry, we have received a grant to support the work of the Hong Kong Hereditary and High Risk Breast Cancer Family Registry. This is a prestigious grant to be received at an overseas centre and we are honoured to have received this grant.

Your Donation Works Wonders
With your generous donation, the HRBCP is enabled to provide free genetic test and genetic counselling to the underprivileged in our society. They are all breast cancer patients and their families referred from the public hospitals and other institutions in Hong Kong. Some of these families also have ovarian, prostate, pancreatic and stomach cancer that may be related to the mutation of the BRCA gene. In addition, we have employed a biostatistician and a geneticist to carry out clinical research. With their expertise, we aim at conducting another 200 genetic tests in 2008. Moreover, we will devote our efforts to developing preventive measures to benefit more people.

Since its establishment, the HRBCP has organized many health talks and seminars for the public to promote public awareness of hereditary breast cancer. To date, Dr. Ava Kwong, Director of the HRBCP, has given 15 health talks/seminars and participated in 2 TV and 5 radio programmes.
TLC Star, TLC Ambassador and Ambassadors of the Programme

In October 2007, we had the pleasure to appoint popular singer Miss Joey Yung 容祖兒 to be the TLC (Tender Loving Care) Star and up-and-coming singer-songwriter Mr. Enrico Kwong 鄺祖德 as the TLC Ambassador of the HRBCP.

Early this year, we appointed Miss Candice Yu 余安安, Miss Janet Ma 馬詩慧, Miss Jue Yao 姚珏, Miss Sandy Lamb 林珊珊 and Soler to be the HRBCP Ambassadors.

These celebrities will assist in raising awareness of hereditary breast cancer in Hong Kong through attending press conferences and charitable events of the HRBCP. We are confident that with their support, we can get the positive message of “Early Detection, Towards Prevention” of hereditary breast cancer across to more women and their families in Hong Kong.

Charitable Events

The following is a list of charitable events we organized in 2007/08 and the upcoming events in 2008/09,

2007
First Annual Charity Gala Dinner, IFC – 16 Nov 2007

2008
Tender Loving Care Star Joey Yung StarLight Charity Concert, HK Stadium – 31 Jan 2008
Ladies Luncheon – 24 Apr 2008
Charity Ballroom Dancing Event, Ballroom, Grand Hyatt Hong Kong – 21 Oct 2008

2009
Annual Charity Gala Dinner – Mar / Apr 2009

For details, please visit our website www.HRBCP.org
Hong Kong Yogathon 2008

Hong Kong Yogathon 2008 is an event organized by the Hong Kong Yogathon (Int’l) Co. Ltd. to strengthen health consciousness of people in Hong Kong. Exercise is good for health. Recent studies have shown that practicing Yoga helps boost our immune system and is good for breast cancer patients too.

We are very glad to become the sole beneficiary organization of this first-ever Hong Kong Yogathon event. During the event, there will be a number of Yoga instructors from India to teach the participants Yoga.

You are most welcome to join this Yoga fun-filled day,

Date : 7 June 2008 (Sat)
Time : 11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Venue : Happy Valley Racecourse
Website : [www.hkyogathon.com](http://www.hkyogathon.com)
Hotline : 3421 0807

Charity Diamond & Jewellery Auction in April

On 6 April, HK Auctions organized a Charity Diamond and Jewellery Auction at Novotel Century Hotel, Wanchai. The HRBCP was happy to be the beneficiary organization of this event.

Community Service

There is a high incidence of hereditary breast cancer in the young age groups and it affects both male and female. It is important to foster community support services and education programmes in our society. Not only do we wish to enhance public awareness on hereditary breast cancer but we also want to increase knowledge of breast cancer and the related cancer in the young age groups in general. Our future plans will include the introduction of various community service programmes to reach out to more people in Hong Kong.

We thank you for your continuous support as your generous donation makes a difference!

This publication is intended for the perusal of donors, friends and staff of the Hong Kong Hereditary and High Risk Breast Cancer Programme. Comment and contribution are welcome, please email to hrbcp@hksh.com